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Production of pig iron, raw steel, and rolled steel underwent the following changes between 1936 and 1950 (in 1,000 tons):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pig Iron</u>	<u>Raw Steel</u>	<u>Rolled Steel</u>
1936	200.8	1,198.0	898.0
1946	123.0	157.3	122.0
1947	132.0	177.0	92.0
1948	181.6	270.0	201.0
1949	250.0	580.0	486.0
1950	335.0	960.0	(735.0) plan

To round out the picture, it must be noted that the Five-Year Plan calls for a yearly production of 1.25 million tons of pig iron and of 3 million tons of raw steel. However, without close economic relations with the West, and in view of the GDR's consistently high reparations shipments to the USSR, it is doubtful that this target will be met.

Large increases in the production of crude brown coal, brown-coal briquettes, sulfuric acid (1947: 18,700 tons; 1950: 215,000 tons), machines, electrical products, and chemicals have also been reported. Moreover, with the intensified coordination of Soviet Zone Germany into the Eastern economic orbit, it is felt that it should be possible to supply the Fuerstenberg/Oder Iron and Steel Combine (now under construction) with the required coal and ore for its estimated annual output of 500,000 tons of pig iron and 550,000 tons of raw steel.

An increase of GDR foreign trade has likewise been reported. In 1949, East German import and export transactions (exclusive of reparations and interzonal trade) reportedly amounted to 700 million Deutsche marks each. By 1950, that figure had risen to approximately 1.2 billion Deutsche marks, and further increases in foreign trade during the current year have been planned.

Almost 50 percent of the GDR's foreign trade transactions have been concluded with the USSR, with Poland ranking second, and Czechoslovakia third. The principal export items were chemicals, machines, electrical equipment, gasoline, sugar, and wood. Finished products (potash is not regarded as a finished product) made up less than 35 percent of 1949 exports and about 40 percent of 1950 exports.

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